

# NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service  
Caribou-Targhee National Forest  
1405 Hollipark Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: **August 21, 2003**  
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## **Comment period extended on Grizzly Bear Habitat Amendment**

The comment period for the Grizzly Bear Habitat Amendments has been extended by 18 days until September 2 in response to requests from the public.

The U.S. Forest Service is proposing to amend forest plans for six national forests in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) to provide additional direction for managing grizzly bear habitat, developed sites and livestock grazing within the Grizzly Bear Recovery Area.

An environmental impact statement (EIS) will analyze the environmental effects of amendments to land and resource management plans for the Beaverhead, Custer and Gallatin National Forests in Montana, the Targhee National Forest located in Idaho and Wyoming and the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forest in Wyoming.

The agency expects to have the draft EIS available for public comment in October 2003 and to have the final EIS by February 2004. The goal of this amendment is to promote the continued recovery of the Yellowstone grizzly bear population.

A public Internet Web site is available from the IGBC (Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee) Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/wildlife/igbc/> (follow the link to Grizzly Bear Habitat Amendments in the Yellowstone Ecosystem).

For more information on the Grizzly Bear Habitat Amendments, telephone Dave Cawrse, IDT Leader at 307-527-6241.

The interdisciplinary team is interested in your comments about the proposal. Comments can be sent by email to [comments-rocky-mountain-shohsone@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-rocky-mountain-shohsone@fs.fed.us), or mailed to Grizzly Bear Habitat Amendments Team, 808 Meadow Lane Avenue, Cody, WY 82414-4549. The scoping comment period began July 16, 2003 with the publication of a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register. The draft EIS is scheduled to be published this fall, with an additional comment period at that time. The final decision will be next spring.

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